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SC-03510-75

Copy 1 of 10

28 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for
National Intelligence Officers

SUBJECT : FY-75 KEP

1. In response to my request, the Intelligence Community Staff has provided an interim report on the status of the FY-75 KEP (copy attached).

2. The preliminary conclusion, based on NIO subjective performance assessments, and performance data provided by Community producers and collectors, is that about two-thirds of the FY-75 KIQs were satisfactorily answered--on 42 KIQs the IC essentially achieved the production and collection goals set forth in applicable strategies--at a cost of about one-third of the IC's O&M operating budget for FY-75.

3. While there were, as expected in such a 'first' effort, a number of ambiguities and some inconsistencies, it seems clear that the process is workable and that useful findings will emerge. Since the objective of the KIQ/KEP process is to relate outcome and performance to priorities and resource allocation, it is necessary to assess Community performance in two ways--in an absolute sense; what did the Community and individual agencies, accomplish with respect to what was known a year ago; and in a relative sense; what was accomplished in terms of the goals, objectives and commitments set forth in KIQ strategies. Success in achieving this objective is dependent upon the cooperation and responsiveness of each participant in the evaluation program--NIO, collector and producer. Part II of the attachment points out some instances in which NIO contributions might be improved, thus enabling greater use to be made of IC production and collection data and enhancing the value of the process.

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4. Since the concept of evaluating Community performance by relating outcome and performance to priorities and resource expenditures appears sound, we must now put the effort and discipline into the process that success demands.

5. To firmly establish the KEP as a viable and productive effort requires:

- a. development of collection and production strategies which take full cognizance of agency and departmental production plans; are uniform in the level of detail used to identify KIQ collection and production objectives; precise in describing tasks and selective in recommending collection actions (i.e., making nominations in light of past performance and the likelihood of future success);
- b. greater utilization of the USIB collection committees in formulating collection strategies;
- c. timely and unconstrained responsiveness in providing data required by performance reporting instructions;
- d. assessments of Community performance with respect to overall KIQ achievement be based on explicit consideration of the individual KIQ collection and production strategies and tasks;
- e. assessments not be arbitrarily limited to interagency products and that judgments of collection performance explicitly consider raw data provided by individual collection techniques/sensors in accordance with collection tasks and commitments; and
- f. specificity, precision and consistency in narrative and numerical assessments of Community performance.

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SC-03510-75

6. I repeat that the KEP continues to be an important endeavor, one that must be established and regularized as soon as possible. To this end I urge your continuing personal attention.

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[Redacted]
W. E. Colby

Attachment

SC-03499-75, copy 4 of 20

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